WHAT IS CONSERVATISM! It is common for captious or thoughtless parti same at the present time to identify all political "conservation" with what they call "devotion to slavery." In point of fact, and of theoretical says: truth, conservatism has no more to do with slavery than with any other institution. Conservatism in the sphere of politics has no special relation to any material interest. It aims to maintain the Constitation and the laws in respect to all matters whatever. It does not aim to uphold slavery, but to uphold the Constitution and the laws in respect to slavery as well as in respect to all other matters. ing his strategy or tactice. The only complaints which It may happen, indeed, that when a political radiealism proposes to strike at slavery through the vitals of the Constitution, the true conservative must regist any such encroachment on the organic tion, because examinations may be often necessary to prelaw of the land, not because he seeks to cherish slavery, but because he seeks to cherish the Con- But to allow any officer to arraige his superior before any stitution of his country. Conservatism proposes to keep good faith with conscience and society by not arraying the one against the other, and by refusing to cut adrift from the plain injunctions of of responsibility, that we confess we cannot understand the latter at the suggestions of the former, for that how any intelligent friend of the Government, in Congress can never be an enlightened conscience which would break the bond of social order by a rash and impulsive spirit of innovation. The genius of true conservatism is well defined by a Republican

"To our mind, the old adage, 'prove all things and hold fast to that which is good, contains the key note of true conservatism. Revolution itself is conservative when It seeks to enforce and perpetuate a great principle, which may perhaps be as old as time. Antiquity is not necessarily error. The Christian religion is not less valuable that it has survived eighteen centuries. The works of Milton and Shakepeare are as full of truth and beauty as they were two centuries ago. It may well be, that had Christ not lived, and Milton and Shakspeare never written, the subtle beauties of Tennyson and Longfellow would never have been developed. While we cannot respect antiquity for its own sake, we yet cherish and love its great truths and mighty accomplishments.

contemporary in the following language:

"In religion, in poetry, in science, in art, and in politice we would not only hold fast and perpetuate the valuable achievements of the past, but we would work on with a generous emulation towards the nearest approximation to their perfection which may be voucheafed to man. All human progress is accomplished through conservation. Exhausted empires stumble and fall down upon the highway of nations, and drop the burden of their accomplishments. Straightway that burden is taken up by some young State, and carried on and developed ward the ever receding goal of Utopia. The field of origination is becoming well nigh exhausted, but that of development is ever being extended. The American people afford two parallel and remarkable illustrations of this fact. Luther, Calvin, and Knox were the pioneers of that religious liberty which brought our fathers to this country, and which is the glory and boast of their children; while our Constitution bears the impress of the old barons at Runnymede. They gave to England 'an aristocratic Republic, with a permanent Executive-monarchy and sereditary aristocrasy its unessential forms.' Our fathers sopied, substituting republicanism and striking out those

"It is the height of folly to sneer at true conservatism and stigmatize it as old-fogyish and slow. There can be no progress without it, except at the expense of true national power and greatness. It behooves this people, especially at this time, to cling to the landmarks which were laid down for us by our forefathers, to follow in the path the goal toward which they aimed. We would be conservative of the liberties which they conquered for us, of the Constitution which they gave us, and of the great destiny which awaits us. We would know no progress to the one side or the other of the path of human political progrees which has been assigned to this people; neither would we abate one jot or tittle of the principles upon which this Government was built, and which have underfain its history. The moment we forget this policy and abandon that action chaos has come again, and we drift back past the accomplishment of centuries. The Union once broken can never be reconstructed. The Constitution once abandoned can never be restored. Enthusiasm inflamed by hatred may be potent to tear down, but it will be powerless to build up."

MORE ACQUITTALS.

We mentioned yesterday that the courts of inquiry in the cases of Gen. Buell and Gen. Rotecrans had resulted in the honorable sequittal of both these officers. We now learn that the court of inquiry, consisting of Generals Hunter, Cadwalader, and Wadsworth, appointed to investigate the conduct of Generals McCook, Crittenden, and Negley, at the battle of Chicksmauga, has reported the results of its investigations to the War Department. They find that Gen. McCook did his entire duty in the battle proper, but made a mistake, arising from an error of judgment, in going into Chattanoogs. Gen. Crittenden is held entirely blameless, and the court speak in commendatory terms of his conduct. His forces had been sent piecemeal to Gen. Thomas, and he found himself without a command before leaving for Chattanooga. Gen. Negley is also exonerated.

THE COLONIZATION FUND.

A bill has been introduced in the Senate to repeal the acts appropriating \$600,000 in all for the purpose of colonixing the negroes who have been made free by legislation in the District of Columbia. It seems that but \$33,000 have been expended in this wise, \$25,000 of which is reseipted for by Senator POMEROY for colonization purposes in Central America, and a moderate sum for coloaising in the Island De Vache, St. Domingo. This enterprise, it appears, was not carried into effect, owing to the remonstrances of the Governments of the countries to which it was proposed to transport negro colonists. No specific practical results of this expenditure are given.

CLAIMS ON ACCOUNT OF THE SIOUX WAR The Secretary of the Interior has transmitted a report to Congress concerning the amount allowed in damages from injuries arising from the late Sioux outbreak in the Morthwest. The total is \$1,370,374. The Secretary has authorized the payment for present rehef of \$200,000. About \$200,000 is estimated as constructive damage to traders, &c., but the Secretary holds that back for revision and consideration. Estimates are made for damages arising from injuries to property by Indians and by United States soldiers. Constructive damages are estimated for those who were obliged to leave their farms.

GEN. MCCLELLAN AND GEN. LEE. As we never gave circulation to the story that Generals McClellan and Lee had held an interview after the battle of Antietam, we are not now called upon particularly to notice the refutation of it; but we cannot refrain from remarking upon the facility with which certain editors of newspapers admit such ridiculous and improbable tales to their columns. A poor drunken creature at Washington sells somebody something about persons of distinction, and lestantly, no matter how abourd it may be in itself, it is calumnious.-N. Y. Buoming Post.

MILITARY BACKBITING.

The New York Times, in alluding to the inquisition which the "War Committee" is reported to have recently instituted into the conduct of Major General MEADE at Gettysburg-an inquisition prompted, it is said, by certain injurious represen tations of a subordinate officer of that commander who conceived himself aggrieved by Gen. Meade's official report of the battle at that place-avails it self of the opportunity to offer the following just observations on such unmilitary whisperings, and the listening ear lent to them in this city. It

"We hope the interests of 'eternal truth,' or 'eternal ustice,' or some other magnificent abstraction, are promoted by these investigations; for there is nothing more certain than that the discipline of the army will be, if i be not already, utterly destroyed by them. We say, deliberately, that there can be nothing better calculated to render our army utterly worthless than the practice to which Congress and the Government is addicted of histen ing to charges made by officers against their chief touch they should ever be permitted to make, or which, by any sound and generally adopted theory of military duty, they are permitted to make, are complaints of personal wrong done to themselves. These are fit matters for examinavent the General from degenerating into a perty tyrant tribunal-we do not care how composed-to answer for his manner of handling the army in active service, for retreating, or advancing, or fighting, is so subversive of all discipline, of all proper subordination, and all proper sense or out of it, can possibly countenance it.

"It is universally acknowledged that there is nothing more fatal to the usefulness of an army than the prevalence amongst subordinates of the habit of criticising the plans of their chief. It has already worked terrible mischief in this Army of the Potomac, and has had much to do with its various failures. But there can be no better way of fostering and devoloping this habit than making the charges, which are the natural fruit of criticism, the subject of governmental investigation. It inevitably con verts corps and division generals into knots of intriguer and malcontents, destroys all unity of action, makes every battle an experiment performed by unwisling hands, and deprives the commander-in-chief of that confidence in those around him which is the first condition of success."

A SENTIMENT FOR THE TIMES.

We find in our Northern contemporaries the folowing happy letter from the pen of Attorney General BATES, having been written, as appears on its face, in answer to an application for his autograph, by way of contribution to the avails of the Brooklyn and Long Island Fair, held in aid of the Sanitary Commission. Being requested further to accompany his aut graph with a sentiment appropriate to the occasion, the distinguished writer, it will be seen, complied also with this requisition made on his courtesy, and seized the opportunity for inculcating, in a way as effective as it is pleasant, one of the most useful of lessons at the present time, when a spirit of rash and headlong innovation is commended to popular favor as the only true statesmanship. The Attorney General, as at once the expounder and the guardian of the laws of the United States within the sphere of his department, could not be expected to look with approbation on the efforts of those who, if we may udge from their words and acts, would seem to found their only pretension to be reputed wise on the contempt in which they hold the wisdom of the men who laid the foundations of this Republic Reared in the school of statesmen who took their inspirations from a rational liberty regulated by law, the honored Attorney General has not been able to conquer his prejudices in favor of that "Constituti nal Union of the United States" which to hold in an abhorrence which rivals that of the rebels in arms against it. However unpopular it may be, "in spite of the rushing current of new opinions," to believe in "good old times, good old principles, and good old men to profess them and act them out, and in a good Constitution worthy to be preserved to the latest posterity," Mr. BATES has the courage to profess a respect for them all. His letter is as follows :

WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 2, 1864.

MADAM : Being confined to my sick room, I have an opportunity, which neither my public office nor the court-room affords, to acknowledge your note of January 30, written in behalf of the Brooklyn and Long Island Fair,

You ask for an sulograph, unconditionally, and for a sentiment " if agreeable." Now, my dear lady, an autograph is a cheap thing, and can be easily furnished, whether sick or well; but a sentiment is quite another affair, and doe

or well; but a sentiment is quite another analy, in a contract very well with the nauseous physic which I am required to take to-day.

Nevertheless, the cause being so good, and withal its advocate a lady, (to which high authority I habitually sentimental, but not of the sickly kin i. I am beginning to grow old, and am a very old-fashione

man; for, in spite of the rushing current of new opinions, I still believe that we once had good old times, good old principles, and good old men to profess them and act them out, and a good Constitution worthy to be preserved to the latest posterily.

In fact, I begin to suspect myself to be little or nothing better than an old fogy; for I can't help believing, with Jackson, that the Constitutional Union of the States must be preserved; and I still have undoubting faith in Wash

ington when he warns us that we cannot preserve our free institutions without a frequent recurrence to the first principles of our Government.

That is my sentiment, madam. I fear it is growing very unpopular, but I can't belp it God knows that I would belp it if I could, for I have little hope for improvement from the efforts of men who fancy themselves so much wiser than their fathers were, and so much better than the laws which they made for our good.

With love for your cause, and respect for yourself, I re

THE GOLD BILL.

main your obedient servant,

The gold bill, as passed by the Senate last week, was discussed in the House of Representatives yesterday without being disposed of. The indications are that the Senate amendment authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to sell the surplus gold will be concurred in.

POLITICS IN KENTUCKY.

From the Louisville Journal of March 11th.

Union STATE CONVENTION.—The majority of the Central Committee appointed by the Union Convention of the State of Kentucky, that assembled in Louisville on the 18th March, 1863, consider it their duty and right to call another Convention :

Wherefore it is resolved that the voters of our State who stand upon and endorse the platform adopted by the Union Democratic Convention held in the city of Louisville on the 18th of March last, and who desire to carry it out, be requested to select delegates to a Convention to be held in the said city on the 25th of May next, for the purpose of forming a State electoral ticket, and selecting delegates to the Union Conservative National Convention which meets in the city of Chicago on the 4th of July next.

JAMES GUTHRIE, Chairman. GEORGE D. PRESTICE, R KNOTT, GMO. P. DORRN,

THE UNITED STATES ARMY.—New bills are before transmitted by telegraph to this city, and published the Congress looking to the reorganization of the Invalid next morning to hundreds of thousands of readers. There Corps and to the punishment of deserters from the army. ought to be in every journal one man at least with discern- The deserters contemplated in this new bill are those ment enough to suppress these idle rumors, which are too who fail to report when drafted into the United States the Peterbeff arrived at Fortress Monroe on Saturday

go a to the contractors, togething cannel; the distinct of the February Soundards could be the best of the report, it is also stated, will soon be published

ANOTHER CALL FOR TROOPS.

ANOTHER BRAFT ORDERED . TO off

A "General Order," No. 100, for an "addi tional draft of two hundred thousand men," was issued last evening by Adjutant General Town SEND. It is dated "War Department, Adjutant General's Office, March 15th, 1864," and embodies the order of the PRESIDENT on the subject, which is in the following words:

EXECUTIVE MANSION.

Washington, March 14, 1864. In order to supply the force required to be drafted for the pavy, and to provide an adequate reserve force for all contingencies, in addition to the five hundred thousand

nen called for February 1, 1864-The call is hereby made and a draft ordered for two hundred thousand men for the military service of the army, navy, and marine corps of the United States.

The proportional quotas for the different wards, towns townships, pecincis, or election districts or counties will be made known through the Provest Marshal General's Bureau, and account will be taken of the credits and defi ciencies on former quotas.

The 15th day of April, 1864, is designated as the time up to which the numbers required from each ward of a city, town, &cc. may be raised by voluntary enlistments, and drafts will be made in each ward of a city, town, &co which shall not have filled the quota assigned to it within the time designated for the number required to fill said

The draft will be commenced as soon after the 15th day of April as practicable. The Government bounties, a now paid, will continue until April 1st, 1864, at which time the additional bounties cease. On and after that date one hundred dollars bounty only will be paid, as provided by the act approved July 22, 1861.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

THE COURT OF CLAIMS.

There appears to be a singular misapprehension oncerning the business of this Court, both in Congress and with the press of the country. It has been stated recently in the debates, doubtless with all sincerity, that the Court is overwhelmed with business, so that it is utterly unable to dispose of any reasonable share of the cases that are thronging its records. Taking up this view of the facts, members are proposing local or roving com missions, the transfer of jurisdiction to other departments, and various other expedients to relieve this Court of cases with which they suppose it to be overburdened. A correspondent of a St. Louis journal, taking up this view of the facts, proposes a local Court of Claims to sit at St. Louis, organized in the same manner as the one in this city. How such impressions and statements have gained currency it is difficult to tell. For certain it is that during the present term the Court has been unoocupied for a considerable portion of the time because no business was either prepared or pressing by claimants. The entire calendar has been nearly disposed of, and at least as many more cases could have been tried since the commence ment of the term had claimants desired to do so. In addition the Court would continue the term into or beyond the mid-summer if the business required it to do so, but it is evident that it will be com pelled to edjourn within a few weeks for want of further business. It is only to correct the misapprehension of facts that this statement is made. and of course not intended any further to influence any action except so far as a correct knowledge of the facts in the case may produce that result.

In this Court the cases run in classes, and the decision in one case often decides numerous other ones dependant on exactly the same law and facts. The recent case of Barthold Schlesinger vs. The United States decides some four or five hundred causes depending upon the same principles. Hence this Court can dispose of many more causes than those courts where every cause differs from every other one in both its facts and law, and where a separate hearing and trial must be had in every

A SPEECH OF THE VICE PRESIDENT.

Vice President HAMLIN made a speech at the organiza tion of a political club in Philadelphia on Friday last, is which be said :

"I know that we have in almost every community class of men who tell us we must have 'the Constitution as it is and the Union as it was.' You and I know that that cannot be. [Applause.] That declaration carries with it the idea that you are to receive back the men whose hands are recking with the blood of your fathers, and brothers, and sons. It carries with it the idea that you are to re establish the status of slavery. It presupposes that you are again to take into your confidence the men who brought about this bloody war. It cannot be. After all that has been spent of treasure and blood, if we are to incite another war by bringing back on terms of equality the men who brought it about, we must hold that party who would favor that project to a strict accountability The tide of emaccipation is not to be rolled back but rolled on. We are not to close this war until the cause of it is removed. [Long applause.] It is not to be left to again corrupt the public heart. We are to stand upon a higher civilization even than that transmitted to us from our lathers. We are to plant this Government on a basis our fathers. We are to plant this Government on a basis of equality of freedom which will insure its perpetuity. The progress toward that end is rapid and sure. No man can tell when this rebellion is to be conquered, but we do see the beginning of the end. It is narrowing down. But two elements have upheld it, and they are fast fading away. The hope of a division at the North has been one of the great causes that has buoyed them up. The North is united for all practical purposes. [Loud applause.] It is united to prosecute this war to the end. One other sause has stimulated this wicked rebellion, and that is that the resources of the Government would not that is that the resources of the Government would not be contributed. And now, when the South sees its failure in this respect, the rebellion must and will collapse."

THE GOLD BILL PASSED.

The bill authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to sell the gold in possession of the Government passed the House of Representatives yesterday, the House consurring in the amendments of the Senate. It therefore now only awaits the signature of the President to become a

THE NAVAL SCHOOL.

The Providence Journal says: "There has just been an examination of the midshipmen connected with the Naval School, which has resulted in the dismissal of twenty-two out of four hundred and forty eight, the whole number. About twenty others, not having made sufficient proficiency in their studies, were put back into the next ower classes The regular annual examination commences on the lat of June, and will occupy some considerabl- time, as those having the matter in charge are disposed to make thorough work of it.

THE WHISKEY TAX

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has issued notice to collectors concerning the new tax on spirits to the following effect :

"The duties upon distilled spirits are increased to sixty cents per gallon, and the duties on sotton to two cents per pound. You will therefore require all distillers of spirits, in making their returns, to specify the amount removed on and after the S h instant, (March.) and on such amount to the tax of sixty cents per callen." pay the tax of sixty cents per gallon."

THE STEAMER PETERHOFF SUNK

The Navy Department has received information that the United States steamers Monticello and Peterhoff collided on the 6th instant, off Wilmington (N. C.) and the Peterhoff was sunk. No lives were lost. The officers of

CHANGES IN MILITARY COMMANDERS.

The following order from the War Der wholly confirms the report published yesterday, as com-municated under date of the 11th instant to the Cincinnsti Commercial," (not Gazette, as was erroneously printed,) of several changes in important military commands here and at the Southwest. It does not, however-and could not be expected to-confirm what was stated in regard to a contemplated change in the command of the Army of the Potomac:

WAR DEPARTMENT, Adjutant General's Office, Washington, March 12, 1864. GENERAL ORDERS, No. 93.—The President of the

United States orders as follows:

I. Major General Halleck is at his own request relieved from duty as General in-Chief of the Army, and Lieutenant General U. S. Grant is assigned to the command of the armies of the United States. The headquarters of the

army will be in Washington, and also with Lieutenant General Grant in the field. II Major General Halleck is assigned to duty in Washngton, as chief of staff of the army, under the direction of he Secretary of War and the Lieutenant General com anding. His orders will be obeyed and respected ac-

III. Major General W. T. Sherman is assigned to the ommand of the mil tary division of the Mississippi, com-osed of the departments of the Ohio, the Cumberland

he Tennessee, and the Arkansas.

IV. Msjor General J. B. McPherson is assigned to the command of the department and army of the Tennessee.
V. In relieving Major General Halleck from duty as
General-in-Chief, the President desires to express his aprobation and thanks for the able and sealous manner which the ardnous and responsible duties of that position By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,

Assistant Adjutant General.

THE KENTUCKY PLATFORM.

The following joint resolutions, reported by a select committee, were enacted into a law prior to the adjournment of the late session of the Legislature of Kentucky. They were debated at length in both Houses, and many amendments offered to them, all of which were negatived except one endorsing Governor Bramlette. The series finally passed the House by year 79, nays 5. In the Senate, a division having been called for, the vote stood On the first resolution yeas \$1, nay 1; on the second, yeas 22: on the third, year 21; and on the fourth, year 18,

Resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth

of Kentucky:
1. That this State need make no further declaration, by legislative resolutions, of her intense loyalty, or of he sincere and unalterable devotion to the National Union and the Constitution. Her stand has been taken after the maturest deliberation, and is known to the world. She will not now prove recreant by taking any backward step, but will go forward with all ber resources of men, money, and credit, to the support of our gallant armies in the field until the rebellion is subdued and treason disarmed: and she will, through the peaceful mode prescribed by the fundamental law of the land, use her efforts to correct any errors that have been committed, either by the Executive or the Legislative Department of the Government.

2. That we regard as impolitio the culistment of negroes as soldiers into the armies of the United States, and we earnestly protest against their enlistment within the State of Kentucky; and we respectfully request the President of the United States to remove from our limits and bor ers all camps for negro soldiers, by which our slaves are

enticed to leave the services of their owners. 3. That, in the opinion of this General Assembly, the constitutional relation of the States in rebellion, as regards the Union, was not changed by the criminal action of their people in attempting to secede, thus forcing a civil war upon the country; and when the people of any or all those States shall, in good faith, return to their allegiance, their States are, as before the war, members of he great American Union, and the people thereof are itigens—all subject to the Constitution and laws of the

4. That the inaugural address and message of Governor Bramlette, to the present General Assembly, so far as the same treat of our Federal relations, reflect truly the sentiments of the Union people of Kentucky, are approved by the present General Assembly, and are recommended to the patriotic consideration of the American people.

THE SLAVE QUESTION IN MARYLAND.

The following preamble and resolutions, offered by Mr KEMP were taken up for consideration in the Maryland House of Delegates on Wednesday, the 9th instant, being the last day but one of the session :

Whereas the institution of neero slavery was established in Maryland by those who estiled here as one of the North American Colonies of Great Britain; and whereas the insti-tation still existed, by the fostering care of the people, up to the time of the "Declaration of Independence" by the thir when her people have by that most noble deed absolved all governmental ties that bound them to the mother country and becom a part of a free and independent nation, they still and becom: a part of a free and independent notion, they still by their organic law and legislation protected said institution; and whereas, when the Constitution of the National Government, in seventeen hundred and eighty-seven, was formed, it rec guised rights of property in slavery, as authorized by the State Governments and was ratified and adopt d by the people of the country with that under-tanding; and whereas, up to a very late period, the National Government and its authorities have faithfully executed their constitutional duties to the people of Naryland, in protecting their rights of property in the institution of slavery; and whereas the people of Maryland, in all periods of her history, have been by such seefal and governmental contracts and guarantees induced to believe themselves righ fully entitled to levy and hold property in slaves, with the same certainty of legal protection as they would have in any kind of personal property; and whereas, at the commencement of the present perty; and whereas, at the commencement of the present rebellion the people of this State had millions of dollars in rebellon the people of this State had millions of dollars in-wested in negro property; and whereas those of her people who were thus unnocently connected with the institution of slavery have suffered heavy loss in the increased insecurity of said property, and its great depreciation in value; and whereas Government is entered into by men for the security.

of life, liberty, and property, therefore it would be in viola-tion of the end and purpose of the Government to deprive the people of their property without a fair compensation: there-fore be it

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That
the representatives of Maryland in the present Compress of Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the representatives of Maryland in the present Congress of the United States are hereby requested to me their influence to obtain from the General Government, during the session of the present Congress, the appropriation of ten millions of dollars to compensate the people of the State for their slaves, when they are emancipated according to the recommendation of his Excellency the President of the United States.

Resolved. That a copy of this resolution and preamble be sent to each of our Representatives in the two Houses of Congress.

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTION.

From the Concord (N H.) Patriot of Wednesday. We give below the result of the election in this State held sesterday. From the returns received it appears that Gov. Gilmore is re elected by a majority of between four and five thousand votes, and the other branches of the government have been carried by the Republicans by equally decisive majorities. This result is an surprising to the victors as to the vanquished. The Republican mato the victors as to the vanquished. The Republican ma-pagers did not anticipate such a victory; they were not entirely confident of any victory; and the Democrats who were believed to be well informed were hopeful of suc-cess, or at least supposed the Republican majority would be small. But this result, so disastrous to the Democracy of New Hampshire, and so ominous of the fate of the country, is easily accounted for. Hundreds of Democrats were denied the right of suffrage by Republican officials, and hundreds of men were allowed to vote that ticket by those officials who had no legal right to vote. In addition to this, some four thousand soldiers were brought home to vote. The property of them "ricked men," or release the rest. o vote, most of them "picked men," or solemnly pledged to vote for Gilmore, while those who would not thus pledge themselves were kept in the field, and hundreds of other employees of the Government were also sent here to vote—all at the public expense. These, with the numerous false pretences and dec ptive devices resorted to by the Republican leaders to delude and defraud honest were the all-sufficient causes of the result we record. The result reflects no credit upon the victors.

TAX ON DOGS .- A memorial was presented Wednesday by Senator Sherman, by the officers of the Ohio Woo Growers' Association, for a revenue tax of one dollar per head upon dogs. [It ought to be five.] The damage, as far as ascertained, from dogs in Ohio, is one hundred thousand dollars the past year. If such a tax would de capitate one-half [all] the worthless dogs, millions would be saved to the country.

DEATH OF A VETERAN POSTMASTER.-Zebulon Wig gin, postwas er of Stratham, (N. H.) died on the 1st in-stact, sged 77 years. Upon the establishment of a post fice in Strathem (February, 1822) Mr. Wiggin was ap-pointed p atmaster, and retained the office under all Ad-ministrations of the Government for more than forty-two years, performing its duties acceptably to the people and estisfactorily to the Department. He was probably the oldest postmaster in the United States.

Admiral Dahigren is stated to be on his way back to Washington, but without having obtained the body of his

The President's autograph copy of the proclamation of freedom, which was raffled for in the A.bany Baraar, was drawn by Gerrit Smith.

ANOTHER RAID BY KILPATRICK.

A VILLAGE BURNT.

NORFOLK, (VA) MARCH 12, 1864. General Kilpatrick has been indulging in another raid The one just completed by him, although not so ambitious as his recent one on Richmond, has been most completely successful, and every thing was accomplished as laid down n the preconcerted programme.

A portion of Col. Spear's 11th Pennsylvania cavalry re giment, Col. Onderdonk's New York mounted rifles, Gen Wistar's brigade of infantry, and battery L. 4th regulars, under Lieut, Hunt, made up the expedition. Gen. Wisar's brigade is comprised wholly of colored troops.

The expedition embarked at Gloucester on transports ing to West Point, and thence to King and Queen county About the first thing done was to lay in sahes King and Queen county Court-house. Not a building was left standng. The ruin of the town was complete. About twenty ouildings constituted the town, and these old and mainly vooden structures. The affrighted rebels fled before the pproach of our forces, but did not all escape.

At Carleton's store, not far from King and Queen coun-Court-bouse, were found the 5th and 9th Virginia cavlry regiments, altogether numbering some twelve hunired, including a large number of citizens who had joined them. Here was their camp, which our troops, after routing its occupants, destroyed, together with a mill filled with grain and other rebel property. Our forces chased the enemy ten miles, in the direction of Fredericksburg, killing and wounding a good many, and taking over thirty

Bob. Colton, the noted rebel guerrilla leader, was among the killed. He was riding in a buggy drawn by a fact horse. It took a chase of several miles before he could be brought to a halt, and only then after being hit by a bullet from the revolver of one of this pursuers. He was fired at nearly a dozen times before being hit. The bullet took unconstitutional. ffect in the back part of the head, killing him instantly.

The expedition returned last evening. Our losses will ot exceed half a dozen wounded; none were killed and o prisoners were taken. General Kilpatrick arrived at Fortress Monroe this afternoon. He is perfectly satisfied with the results gained, and that the inhabitants of King and Queen county have been most severely punished for the murder of Col. Dahlgren. He leaves to night for Baltimore, thence to proceed to the Army of the Potomac. where the remnant of his command accompanying him on this last expedition, now shipping on transports, will speedily rejoin him.

LATE FIGHT NEAR NATCHEZ. (MISS.)

Rear Admiral Porter forwards from Vicksburg to the Navy Department a communication from Lieut. Com. Greer, of the U. S. steamer Rattler, off Hurricane Islan !. fississippi river, (under date of February 16,) in relation to an attack of rebels, under Gen. Harrison, on a guard stationed at Waterproof, and the dispersion of the enemy, after three desperate attempts to capture our troops, in which they would have been successful but for the presence of the gunboat Forest Rose. Lieut. Com. Greer

"Two hundred negro troops had been stationed at Wa terproof, making it a depot for negroes, cattle, &c. This aroused the ire of the rebels, and on Saturday, the 14th instant, a force of about eight hundred cavalry of Harrison's command made an attack upon the post driving in the pickets and pressing the troops very hard. Fortu-nately for them the Forest Rose was present. Captain Johnson immediately opened upon them a rapid fire, which drove them back. He got his vessel under way and shelld the enemy wherever his guns would bear Finally, they retreated to the woods. This affair lasted from 3 to

the town, but Capt. Johnson, who was well posted as regards the approach, drove them back with a few shells. Eight dead rebels and five prigners were left in our hands. The loss of the Union troops was five killed and two wounded. Capt. Johnson says that some of the majority fought well, but for want of proper discipling the majority

"On the morning of the 16th the enemy, who had been "On the morning of the lifth the enemy, who had been reinforced, again attacked the post, the attacking party consisting of two regiments of infantry, one of cavalry, and four pieces of attillery. They attempted to plant their battery upon a plank road, but a few well-directed shots from the Forest Rose sent them in confusion out of range. The further attempts of the rebel force to advance were frustrated by the Forest Rose.

"Our troops were reinforced from Natches shortly after the rebels fell back. The rebel loss, as far as known.

"Our troops were reinforced from Natches shortly af-er the rebels fell back. The rebel loss, as far as known, seven killed, quite a number wounded, and several prioners, among them a lieutenant, who was an aid to Har rison. Our forces lost three killed and twelve wounded.

THE ATTACK ON MOBILE.

The Boston Journal publishes the following extracts rom the diary of a correspondent on board the fleet at Grant's Pass, near Mobile, giving a description of the comnencement of the bombardment of the fort at that place, up to the 18th ultimo, inclusive:

"MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22 .- The past four days have been spect in taking in shot, shell, and other essentials for the bombardment Deserters continue to come off to the fleet, and they all give the same accounts of the consterna-tion at Mobile on account of Sherman's expected advance on that place.

"TUESDAY, FEB. 23 .- Fine weather and light south west winds this morning. Got the mortar schooners into position early, and the action became general about ten clock, and was kept up, with very little effect, however, ill sundown. There was little firing from the fort and not a soul to be seen, only once or twice during the day, when a man would walk up, take a look at us, and disas pear again. No one on board the first was reported hurt. An order has been issued at nine o'clock to night to take position closer to the fort.
"Wepnesday, Feb. 24.—The firing has been much

hotter on both sides to-day, but the mutual effect seems to be trifling. Some splendid rifle shors were made from our Parrotts and Sawyers. No one burt on our side. At sun-down the rebels fired a blank carfridge, and hauled down their secesh rsg in defiance of our efforts.

THURSDAY, FEB. 25 .- To-day we had some heavy pelting away on both sides. The rebels paid us the compliment of sending a shell close under the stern of the fl g. ship, ('he Calhoun,) the only damage by which was the 'inu dation' of the Admiral's breakfast by the spray it sent up through the cabin windows. The rebel fort had been supplied during the day with some rifle guns, and with men who seemed to know how to use them, and about twenty shell were dropped in a very close vicinity to the Calhoun. The light draft gunboat Port Royal get well in toward the fort with her 10 inch smooth bore guns, got to work on the rebels and completely drove them away from their places. This showed how easy it would be to take the place if we had only a sufficient depth of water or manosuvre in, or lighter draft vess-1, better adapted to the present work. One man on the Port Royal had his arm burt with a shell. Owing to the lack of water we had to get out firing distance of the fort (Powell) at night. The nearest we have been to it has been two miles distant. "FRIDAY, FEB 26 .- Nothing done to-day, the wind being shore and the water too shallow. The rebals are busy strengthening their fort and mounting new and heavy guns. But our Admiral bas certain intentions which when perfected, by God's beip, I believe will soon give Mobile to the Unjon.

AFFAIRS IN MEXICO.

By way of Havana we have accounts from Vera Crus to the 1st instant and from the city of Mexico to the 26th

The report that President Justez had resigned is denied n a letter by himself, dated Satello, January 20, in which, after stating that his abdication would only be uselers and ridiculous, would not be approved of by the nation, would be an incentive to anarchy and a triumph to the enemy,

"These considerations, and many others too numerous o mention in a letter, have re-awakened in me with greater vigor than ever the sentiments of patriotism, of honor and of duty which impel me to retain my position until the nation withdraws me from it by a legitimate vote, thus exenerates me from my heavy responsibilities, or until the intervention, and the traitors who have allied themselves to it, deprive me of my power by main force. In the mean time I shall continue to use my every exertion Certainly the situation to-day is not brilliant, and I do not wish to create the delusion that circumstances at present can be very favorable; yet I am well persuaded that our duty is to fight for our country, and that between defend ing and betraying there is no bonorable course. To press on the war firmly and with all the means in our power is our only hope of salvation."

Zacatecas has been occupied by two thousand Imperialists, who are directing their military operations against Gen. Ortega. He is entremeded at Guadalajara, and the Imperialists have declared this place in a state of siege. It is stated that the people of Zacateous received the invaders with rejoidings,

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH. 1

LATEST DESPATCHES

GUBERNATORIAL MANIFESTO IN KENTUCKY

LOUISVILLE, MARCH 16 -Governor Bramlette has issued an address to the people of Kentucky, which says a In view of the disturbance of the popular mind preduced by the enrolment of slaves for the army in Kentucky, it is deemed prudent to make the following oug. gestions, for the benefit and guidance of the loyal people of Kentucky:

"Your indignation should not move you to commit acts of violence, nor to unlawful resistance. Standing as we have stood, and will ever stand, for the Constitution, the Union, and the enforcement of the laws, we must repel the efforts of the rebellion to overthrow our Government by our gallant soldiers in the field, and meet and correct unjust or unconstitutional legislation by legal appeals to the constituted tribunals of the Government, and through the ballot box, in constituted modes, to overthrow those who pervert or abuse the trust committed to them. This is the only true mode of maintaining the Constitution, and the Union, and the suforcement of the laws.

"The mere act of enrolling the names of slaves does not affect the rights of a citizen. If any violence or wrong to the person or property of citizens be committed by any officer or soldier against the known laws of the land, make your accusation in the mode prescribed by law, and, if the commanding officer refuses or neglects it, use your utmos endeavors to arrest the officers or soldiers under his com mand so accused, and hand him or them over to a civil magistrate for trial. When officially advised of the facts, the Executive will prefer charges and demand a court martial under the constitution, and in accordance with the law assert and urge your rights. It is our duty to obey the law until it is declared by a judicial decision to le

"The citizen whose property may be taken for public use will be entitled, under the imperative mandate of the Constitution, to Just compensation for his private property so taken for the public use. Although the present Congress may not do us justice, yet it is safe to rely upon the justice of the American people, and an appeal to them will not be unbeard or unanswered Peace restored, and the unity of our Government preserved, will drive to an ignominious distance those who, in the agony of our conflict, perverted their sacred trusts to the base uses of partisan ends and fanatical purposes.

"Uphold and maintain your Government as constituted, and obey and enforce its just demands, as the only hope of perpetuating free institutions."

EUROPEAN NEWS.

HALIFAX, MARCH 16 .- The steamship Arabia arrived this evening. The City of Washington arrived at Liverpool on the morning of the 5th instant.

Danish affairs are reported unchanged. The Archduke Maximilian arrived at Paris on the 5th. It is reported that he will embark for Mexico on the 28th of March, al the difficulties having been settled.

LONDON, MARCH 5 -Shaw Lefever's speech in the House of Commons last night relative to the rebel cruisers was strongly Northern in sentiment. He maintained that the vessels were British, and it was absurd to call them Confederate war vessels. He gave the Government credit for endeavoring to carry out the foreign enlistment so: but the act is insufficient and a remedy should be applied.

Nothing important to-day relative to the Danish war.

and nothing expected until the interval requested by Denmark for deciding the conference question expires.

A Vienna telegram says that the mission of the Prussian Minister Manteuffel to Vienna had the desired result, Austria having consented to the continuation of operati

A BLOCKADE RUNNER BEACHED.

HALIFAX, MARCH 16-The new blockade-running teamer Florida arrived this morning from Bermudatour days' passage-for repairs. She was mable to enter the port of Wilmington, and reports the blockade runner Will of the Wisp beached off Wilmington.

SOLDIERS RETURNING. BOSTON, MARCH 16.-Eight hundred soldiers, mostly veterane, belonging to New Hampshire, Maine, and Mas

sachusetts regiments, left here last night by various routes to rejoin the Army of the Potomac. FROM KNOXVILLE. KNOXVILLE, MARCH 15 .- There was some slight skirnishing yesterday beyond Morristown, in which the rebel

Col. Jones was killed. All is quiet to-day. The rebels are supposed to be in force at Ball's Gap. A lieutenant engaged in recruiting for the First United States Colored (heavy) Artillery, was shot yesterday, near

Louisville, by a rebel citizen. The cars went to Morristown yesterday. All was quiet

A REBEL CAMP SURPRISED.!

at the front.

PHILADELPHIA, MARCH 16 .- A special despatch to the Bulletin from Cincinnati says that information from Vicks-burg reports that a portion of the Marine Brigade, under Capt Crandall, recently surprised a rebel camp east of Port Gibson, and captured forty seven prisoners and re-lessed five Union soldiers taken at Big Black.

ARRIVAL FROM NEW ORLEANS.

NEW YORK, MARCH 16 .- The steamer Creole has arived, from New Orleans on the 9th instant. The small steamer Algoden was sunk in the Mississeppi

on the night of the 5th instant by coming in collision with the steamer Dudley Buck. All on board were saved. The Chamber of Commerce at New Orleans has been ravived. There is no war news.

BURNING OF A CAMP.

AUGUSTA, MARCH 15 .- A fire broke out this evening in Abdusta, March 15.—A are broke out this evening in the camp of the Second Maine Cavalry. A large amount of Government property was destroyed, consisting of equipments, ammunition, &c. All the barracks but two were consumed. The fire was u doubtedly the work of

FROM CAIRO

CAIRO, MARCH 16 -Gen Sherman and staff passed through here to-day on route for Louisville.

The steamers Laucaster, Celeste, and Silver Wave were recently fired into on White river. One man was killed

THE RHODE ISLAND UNION CONVENTION.

PROVIDENCE, MARCH 15 -The Union National State Convention met to-day, and nominated James Y. Smith for Governor, Seth Padellord for Lieutenant Governor, John R Bartlett for Secretary of State, Horatio Rogers for Attorney General, and Samuel A. Parker for General Treasurer-all of whom are the present incumbents, except Mr. Rogers. Delegates were elected to the Baltimore Convention, and a resolution passed recommending them to vote for the renomination of President Lincoln. The State election takes place on the 6th of April:

THE CHESAPEAKE CASE.

PORTLAND, (MR) MARCH 15 .- The steam revenue outter Miami has been ordered to Halifax to convoy the stolen steamer Chesapeake to this port.

NORTH CAROLINA INDIANS.

KNOXVILLE, (FENN.) MARCH 15.—Peace has been ratified with the North Carolina Cherokees. Those recently optared say they were induced to take up arms under the belief that they were fighting for the United States Government. Two were permitted to go in search of the band and represent the facts. Their chief, Tackanec, a few days a noc, with thirty of his tribe, accepted the amnesty proclamation. Since the return of these Induced the level of the state of the search of the dians to Lyalty the rebels have committe i numerous out. rages on them. I wenty have been thrown into prison, and the rest are concealed in the mountains.

Franco-Mexican papers announce the defection of VIdaurri from the Justist party, and say that the Mexican Government is now reduced to four or five States, which are, at that, but nominally under its ruly.